

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 05872 071933 Z

47

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 IO-12

DPW-01 AID-20 INRE-00 RSR-01 /115 W  
----- 010210

P R 071435 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9812

INFO USDEL JEC PARIS

CINCPAC

CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAIGON 5872

E. O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS: MILI MARR VS

SUBJECT: FAN PULLS BACK

THE FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM AMCONGEN CAN THO DATED APR 7  
IS REPEATED HERE FOR YOUR ACTION/ INFO:

QUOTE

S E C R E T CAN THO 0141

E. O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS: MILI, MARR, PINS, VS

SUBJECT: MG NGHI RANKLES UNDER JGS RESTRICTIONS

1. IN A CONVERSATION WITH CONGEN OFFICER AND OSA REPRESENTATIVES  
APRIL 7, MR IV COMMANDER, MG NGHI REVIEWED IN DEPTH THE  
HONG NGU BATTLE AND THE CORPS SITUATION. NGHI COMPLAINED BITTERLY  
ABOUT THE JGS INJUNCTION AGAINST OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS IN THE POST-  
CEASEFIRE PERIOD AND SAID HE WOULD TRAVEL TO SAIGON APRIL 7 TO ASK  
FOR A CHANGE OF ORDERS. HE PLANS TO ASK FOR PERMISSION TO ATTACK  
NVA REGIMENTS IN CAMBODIA ENGAGED IN THE HONG NGU BATTLE.
2. IN REVIEWING THE HONG NGU BATTLE, NGHI POINTED OUT THE VC/ NVA  
HAVE DEPLOYED THE PROVISIONALL NVA 9 TH DIVISION WHICH INCLUDES FOUR  
REGIMENTS, THREE INFANTRY AND ONE ARTILLERY, AS WELL AS A  
SAPPER BATTALION. THE ARTILLERY REGIMENT, THE NVA 76 TH WAS  
RECENTLY CONSTITUTED AND COMES FROM COSVN RESOURCES. TO DATE THE  
76 HAS ONLY EMPLOYED ROCKETS AND MORTARS. IT MAY, HOWEVER, HAVE  
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 05872 071933 Z

ARTILLERY PIECES. THE NVA 9 TH DIVISION IS ATTACKING AT WILL, CAUSING SIGNIFICANT RVNAF AND CIVILIAN CASUALTIES. AS OF APRIL 5, CHAU DOC PROVINCE' S TAN CHAU CITY ALONE HAS SUFFERED 55 CIVILIANS KILLED AND 112 WOUNDED BY INDIRECT FIRE.

3. ELSEWHERE IN MR IV, VC/ NVA INITIATED INCIDENTS HAVE INCREASED EACH MONTH SINCE THE CEASEFIRE. RVNAF AND CIVILIAN CASUALTIES HAVE RISEN ACCORDINGLY. NGHI PREDICTED THE LEVEL OF VC/ NVA VIOLENCE WOULD CONTINUE TO RISE UNLESS HE IS PERMITTED TO LAUNCH OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS. HE ALLOWED VC/ NVA PRESSURE AND RVNAF RESTRAINT WERE SERIOUSLY UNDERMINING TROOP MORALE.

4. NGHI STATED HE WOULD TRAVEL TO SAIGON APRIL 7 TO MEET WITH JGS AND ASK FOR A CHANGE OF ORDERS. HE WILL SPECIFICALLY PROPOSE A CROSS BORDER ATTACK INTO CAMBODIA AGANST THE PROVISIONAL NVA 9 TH DIVISION TO RELIEVE PRESSURE ON HONG NGU AND BRING AN END TO INDIRECT FIRE. NGHI WOULD ALSO RECOMMEND B-52 STRIKES AGAINST NVA REGIMENTAL CONCENTRATIONS IN CAMBODIA. THE PROPOSED AREAS FOR B-52 STRIKES ARE UNPOPULATED AND HAVE BEEN B-52 TARGETS IN THE PAST.

5. ELSEWHERE IN MR IV, NGHI WILL ASK FOR AUTHORITY TO CONDUCT INCREASED ARVN OFFENSIVE OPERATIONS IN OTHER THREATENED OR HARD-PRESSED AREAS.

BARNES

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\*\*\* Current Handling Restrictions \*\*\* n/a

\*\*\* Current Classification \*\*\* CONFIDENTIAL

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**Subject:** FAN PULLS BACK  
**TAGS:** MARR, MILI, VS, MILI  
**To:** CDR USSAG NKP RTAFB  
CINCPAC  
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